

Conference Presentation Abstract

Title:

Behaviour Management: Partnering to Bridge the Continuum

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Summary:

Patients with brain injury often exhibit maladaptive behaviours typically due to cognitive-communication impairments, which if left unchecked, may impact their rehabilitation, recovery and community reintegration. Behavioural assessment and interventions can support the patient during all levels of the continuum of care, minimizing the role that the patient's behaviours play throughout the recovery process. Consistent implementation of a behaviour management plan, typically consisting of very basic strategies and changes to the environment, will often help the patient better manage behaviours and improve their ability to participate in therapies. This presentation will focus on the importance of interprofessional collaboration across the ABI continuum of care addressing the cognitive and behavioural needs of patients, in order to facilitate their transition from acute care to rehabilitation to discharge into the community. During each phase of recovery, the healthcare and community teams face many challenges regarding the development of behavior management plans. This stems from a lack of skilled resources to environmental challenges. Acute care, rehabilitation, and community settings find it difficult to obtain adequate behavioral assessment and approaches to improve the consistent implementation of behavioural interventions. Transitioning patients between settings can be equally challenging due to these behavioural issues and lack of skilled resources. A case example will illustrate how successful strategies have been employed during each phase of recovery and how they enhance patient transition from acute care to inpatient rehabilitation and from rehab to the community. We will also demonstrate how collaboration across the sectors with ABI and non-ABI providers helps to enhance sustainability and management in the community.

Learning Objective:

Learn about how to communicate and collaborate related to behavioural care plans across the continuum: use case example to illustrate behavioural strategies that have shown effectiveness in transitioning patients with behaviours.